

The Heterodyne

Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday May 18

Meetings Begin at 7pm at Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross
2731 N First St, San Jose (SW corner at Plumeria Dr)



Tom Dunbar, W6ESL's VHF Tent at WVARA's Field Day site last year. Photo is courtesy of WVARA member Bill Frantz, AE6JV. ARRL used this photo on the front cover of the June QST. Congratulations, guys!

Next Meeting - May 18 "All Things Field Day" by Jim Peterson, K6EI

*Field Day is just around the corner:
June 24-26!*

Meeting Location:
American Red Cross
Silicon Valley Chapter
2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Drive
(southwest corner) in San Jose.

Change in Future Meeting Nights

This month's WVARA meeting is at the usual day and time: i.e. the third Wednesday of May (i.e. this week) at 7pm.

Based on surveys of members and discussions at meetings, **future meetings, beginning in June, will be shifted to the *SECOND WEDNESDAY* of each month.** For example, our June meeting will be on June 8. The meeting time remains at 7:00 p.m.

K6XM's Top Band DXCC

Greg Olsen, K6XM and a member of our WVARA Field Day Team, worked his 100th country on 160 meters on March 7 -- a truly amazing success. Great job, Greg!

K6EI Record in ARRL 160m Contest

In addition to ranking #7 nationwide, Jim, K6EI set a new all-time record for the Pacific Division QRP. He used a new technique for accomplishing two back-to-back all-nighters in the shack without falling asleep at the controls: Jim set up his station so that he could operate while standing up. As long as he was standing, he didn't fall asleep, but as soon as he would sit down he'd start to drift off. So both nights were spent on his feet. By sunrise on Sunday his feet were sore but he was still awake and the log was full. Congratulations, Jim!

Electronic Flea Market Schedule

Saturday, May 21

Hosted by Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association (3rd Saturday)

Saturday, June 11

Hosted by Southern Peninsula Emergency Communications System

Saturday, July 9

Hosted by Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Saturday, Aug 13

Hosted by Silicon Valley Emergency Communications System

Saturday, Sep 10

Hosted by West Valley Amateur Radio Association

Saturday, Oct 8

Hosted by Silicon Valley Chapter, American Red Cross

More information at <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

New Call Sign

Jeannett Pispisa, previously KG6SVJ, is now K6JZY. Nice call, Jeannett!

Field Day Antenna Party Photos, April 30

Finding an appropriate location for the practice installation was a bit of a challenge. There was a Health & Safety Fair going on at our first location (Columbia Middle School). We went to Baylands Park, but were told by the ranger that no antennas taller than 10ft were allowed. So we went to Plan C: setting up at an “undisclosed location”:



Installing the 4 Element 20m Monobander on the Portable 50ft Mast



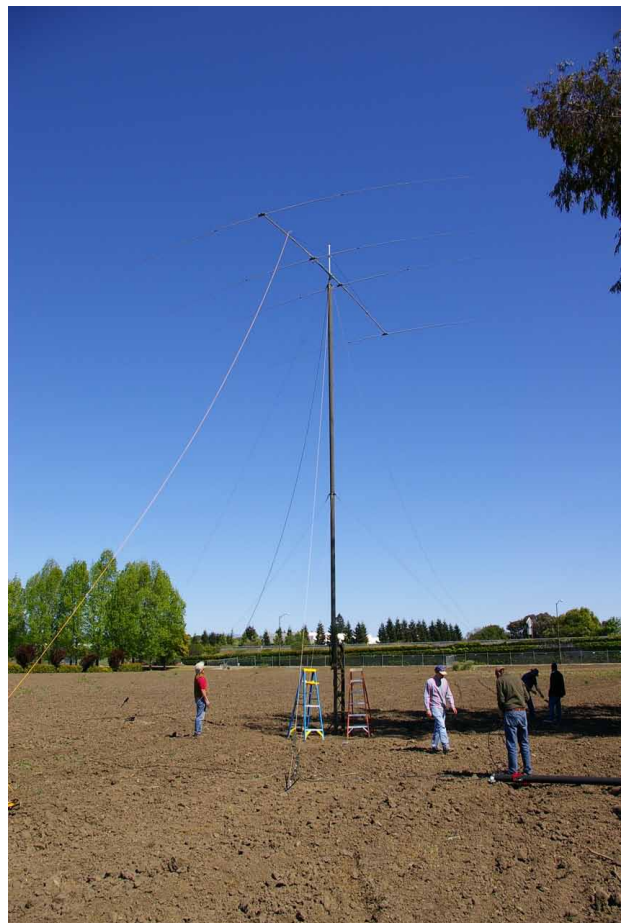
Nick, KZ2V and Senthil, KJ6KCG Hard at Work



Kevin, KK6VF and Svend, KF6EMB



Jon, W6PI



4 Elements on 20m up 50ft Look Really Great!
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Dean, N6DE and Jon, W6PI Report a 1:1 SWR Across the CW Segment of 20m - Life is Good!

2011 Field Day Participant Survey

In preparation for Field Day (June 24-26, 2011), we want to get an idea of who is likely to be around to assist with set-up, tear-down, and operating. *We are particularly interested volunteers who might be interested in heading up the satellite, VHF, GOTA and the third SSB station.* If you are planning to participate at Mora Hill, please complete the following survey. We want to ensure that everyone who has a desire to operate gets an opportunity.

Jim, K6EI
WVARA Field Day Coordinator

Background Information: This year's Field Day operation will be at the top of Mora Hill (see map above) located in the San Antonio Open Space Reserve near the Madgellena exit off of Highway 280 in Los Altos Hills. This year our plan is to run 5 watts in the with 7 Alpha Battery category with 1 digital (PSK-31) station, 3 HF SSB stations, 3 CW stations, a satellite station, one VHF station, and a GOTA station (running both PSK-31 and SSB) for less-experienced operators.

Our goal is to ensure that participants are well matched to appropriate stations – for example, not putting a less-experienced operator into the chaotic band conditions of

Saturday afternoon's 20 meter when they might have a better experience on a quieter band or at the GOTA station.

By the way, here's the official ARRL definition of GOTA: "The GOTA station may be operated by any person licensed since the previous year's Field Day, regardless of license class. It may also be operated by a generally inactive licensee. Non-licensed persons may participate under the direct supervision of an appropriate control operator."

2011 Field Day Participant Survey:

Name & Callsign: _____

- 1) I plan to help set-up on Friday, June 24, 11am-4pm [y/n] or _____
- 2) I plan to help tear-down between 11am and 1pm on Sunday, June 26 [y/n] or _____
- 3) I am available to go pick up pizza for the team at 5:30pm on Friday [y/n] or _____
- 4) I am available to go pick up burgers for the team at 5:30pm on Saturday [y/n] or _____
- 5) I am available to bring up bagels and coffee for the team at 7am on Sunday [y/n] or _____
- 6) I am interested in helping to run a station during Field Day (either as an operator or as a QSO logger) [y/n] or _____
- 7) I am generally available to help operate/log during the following time windows:
 - a. 11am – 5pm Saturday [y/n] or _____
 - b. 5pm – 10pm Saturday [y/n] or _____
 - c. 10pm—2am [y/n] or _____
 - d. 2am – 7am Sunday [y/n] or _____
 - e. 7am – 11am Sunday [y/n] or _____

Comments: _____

8) If you indicated yes to Question 6, please rank your mode preferences and whether your preference is to be an operator or to assist with QSO logging:

HF-SSB	_____
HF-Digital	_____
HF-CW	_____
VHF	_____
Satellite	_____
GOTA / PSK	_____
GOTA / SSB	_____

9) If you prefer CW, what is the maximum code speed at which you feel comfortable running QSOs?

10) If you have a preference for operating HF/SSB, do you consider yourself to be:

A) an experienced SSB contest operator [☐]

B) a casual SSB operator [☐]

C) a bit rusty at SSB operating [☐]

D) relatively inexperienced at HF SSB [☐]

E) a beginner at HF SSB [☐]

Comments? _____

11) If you have a preference for digital, have you operated PSK-31 before in a contest? [y/n]

12) Are you interested in being a station band captain? (If yes, indicate whether your preference is for CW, SSB, Digital, GOTA, VHF or Satellite) _____

13) Any other comments or suggestions? _____

2011 West Valley Amateur Radio Association Officers

President: Jim Peterson, K6EI

Vice President: Bill Ashby, N6FFC

Secretary: Jeannett Pispisa, K6JZY

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Internet Postmaster: Phil Verinsky, W6PK

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Webmaster: Larry Goodwin, KG6ENF

Club URL: <http://www.wvara.org>

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Club Net

WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net script can be found at <http://www.wvara.org/net.html>.

WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)			
Band	Frequency	PL	Status
6 Meters	52.580- MHz	151.4 Hz	Operating
2 Meters	147.39+ MHz	151.4 Hz	Operating
1.25 Meters	223.96- MHz	156.7 Hz	Operating
0.70 Meter	441.35+ MHz	88.5 Hz	Operating
0.23 Meter	1286.2- MHz	100 Hz	Operating

Club address:

West Valley Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 6544

San Jose, CA 95150-6544